# CHS CHECKUP



A publication by and for employees of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services

Feb. 26, 2001

#### **NEWS BRIEFS**

#### HISPANIC NURSES CHAPTER

The first Kentucky chapter of the Association of Hispanic Nurses is meeting March 1. The meeting will be at 6 p.m. at Romano's Macaroni Grill, 401 South Hurstbourne Parkway in Louisville. For more information, call Haydee Canovas of the Kentucky Nurses Association, 502-637-2546 (ext. 24) or 502-776-5785.



What do you need to include when filling out medical forms at a doctor's office? When asked to list all medications you are currently taking, list your currently prescribed medications. But don't forget to include over-the-counter medications such as pain relievers, antacids, laxatives, vitamins and minerals, natural remedies, garlic, herbs, etc.

Without this information your doctor can't warn you about possible drug interactions. Be sure to also include the milligrams of each and how often you are taking them.

# Strategic Planning Letter With Checks

Cabinet for Health Services employees should be looking for a little something extra in this week's paycheck. A letter from Secretary Jimmy D. Helton introducing you to the Cabinet's strategic planning initiative will be included.

This process is important for all

CHS employees, as it will set our course for the next four years. Please read the letter and be thinking of ideas you may have about the future of the cabinet. Opportunities for feedback will be provided during the process.

### Vital Statistics Renovation Work Nears End

The renovation work in the Vital Statistics Branch on the first floor of the Human Resources Building in nearly complete.

Staff will begin moving to their permanent locations this week and the move should be complete by March 9.

The renovation work included

new paint and a tile floor to replace the carpet. Tile was used in this area due to the high traffic and for the ease of cleaning.

Another door and service desk will be added to the Vital Statistics area to allow for better traffic flow and easier access for disabled visitors.

# Oxycontin Task Force Includes CHS Staff

Gov. Paul Patton last week announced the formation of a task force to help combat the drug Oxycontin.

Abuse of the painkiller has been on the increase in recent months, according to law enforcement officials. Included on the task force are Dr. Rice Leach, commissioner of public health, and Danna Droz, branch manager for the Kentucky All Schedule Prescription Electrnic Reporting program, also known as KASPER, which is part of the Department for Public Health.

## **CHS Teams Needed For Bowl for Kids Sake**

CHS is looking for teams for the The Bowl for Kids Sake March 11-16, a fundraiser for Big Brothers-Big Sisters.

Four or five people may be on a team. There are



prizes for teams that collect the most money. Time slots are running out, so contact Kimberly Lynn at 564-7213 for more information.

